



Waste Not News

Waste-Wise News for Nez Perce

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The Impacts of Paper Making and the Magazine Industry

Paper, it's made from trees. Ok, it can be made from other plants as well but for many reasons our corporations and government have chosen tree over other plants even though most of our written history has been on paper made from other plants! So for the time being, we are making paper from trees, and since we all use paper in our daily lives, it makes sense to attempt to reduce the impacts of making paper from trees as much as possible.



A short background in paper making will help in better understanding its impacts. Paper is made from a mix of hardwoods, softwoods, tall trees, old trees, young trees, thin trees and sometimes chips and sawdust. According to Conservatree.org, nearly half of the trees cut in North America go to papermaking. And although the paper industry refers to trees as a "renewable resource", the lands that were once forests often become plantations for the paper industry that are intensively managed using pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers and do not contain the diversity of the forests they replace.

The paper making process is no friend of the environment either. The biggest environmental hazard associated with paper making is the bleaching process. Virtually all commonly-available paper products, even many recycled-content papers, are bleached using chlorine-based chemical compounds. When chlorine is combined with wood, it produces by-products called chlorinated organic compounds, including dioxins. These are released into our waterways where they do not break down. The EPA labeled dioxin as "the most potent carcinogen ever tested in laboratory animals" and further research has linked dioxins to endocrine, reproductive, nervous and immune system damage. When fish eat materials contaminated with dioxins, it bioaccumulates in the fatty tissues of fish, sea birds and mammals, traveling up the food chain. The average chlorine-based pulp mill releases 50 million gallons of toxic water every single day and in the U.S. there are over 80 of these mills. While pollution prevention can significantly reduce the emission of these toxins, it does not eliminate them. Fortunately, many of these mills are

moving towards oxygen-based bleaching compounds that require far less water, and produce virtually no pollution.

Even though some recycled-content paper uses chlorine bleaching, it requires less bleaching than virgin paper. Purchasing recycled-content also reduces other environmental impacts. An EPA study concluded that using one ton of 100% recycled-

content paper saves 4,100 kwh of energy, 7,000 gallons of water and keeps more than 60 pounds of pollution out of the air. Paper industry representatives have estimated that one ton of recycled paper saves approximately 17 trees.

With this information in mind, I want to bring the conversation to magazines, as the title of this article mentions. U.S. magazine production uses more than 2.2 million tons of paper every year, primarily using paper made from virgin fiber, equaling 35 million trees per year. Less than 5% of magazine paper has any recycled content. Approximately 90% of all magazines are discarded within one year of publication with only 20% being recycled. Overproduction of magazines is yet another problem as publishers want to maximize advertising rates and distributors not wanting empty magazine racks.

So what can you do to reduce this impact? Well assuming you are a magazine reader, you can start by reading only magazines with recycled content. If your favorite magazine is not made with recycled-content paper, contact the publisher and ask them to change this practice or you will choose to no longer purchase their product. You could also read your favorite magazine(s) at your local library, reducing the need for printing so many issues, while saving you money. And make sure you recycle your magazines, or better yet, pass them on to a friend so they are read many times before recycling.

For more information about this topic visit paperproject.org, conservatree.com or mindfully.org/Sustainability/Magazine-Environmental-Impacts.htm. These sites were used in the writing of this article and these groups are committed to helping magazine publishers adopt environmentally preferable printing and distribution practices.

Defining Household Hazardous Waste

Products that contain the following words are hazardous waste: flammable/combustible, corrosive/caustic, explosive/reactive, toxic/poisonous and radioactive. These products should **never** be placed in your household garbage but brought to the Lewiston Transfer Station or the Asotin County Landfill.

One exception is latex paints. If you have bad latex paint or just a small amount left over, let the paint air dry or add kitty litter to solidify the paint and then it may be placed out for regular garbage collection.

The following materials are accepted at the Asotin County Landfill: all batteries, all paints and adhesives, motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline, other flammable materials, cleaners, aerosols, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, poison materials, pool chemicals, mercury thermometers, switches and thermostats.



Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Lewiston Transfer Station:

Location: 560 Down River Rd.

Phone: 746-1316, ext. 0

Open: Monday - Sunday,
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Accepts: Motor Oil, Antifreeze, Latex Paint and Batteries.

Asotin County Landfill:

Location: 2901 6th Ave.,
Clarkston

Phone: (509) 758-1965

Open: Every Wednesday and the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month, 8 am. - 4 p.m.

Accepts: Most Hazardous Wastes. Please call ahead for an appointment for large quantities of Hazardous Wastes.

Note: The above information is for households only. Commercial generators need to contact the Asotin County Hazardous Waste Coordinator at (509) 758-1965 for details on wastes accepted, pricing and appointments.



Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

Billing Information:

Nez Perce County
799-3090

Missed Collections:

Latah Sanitation, Inc.
746-5949

Where Does It Go, What's It Turned Into? Mixed Paper



The Mixed Waste Paper that is collected at the bulky waste sites is for materials including paper egg cartons, junk mail, paper board like cereal boxes and soda cartons, catalogs, construction paper, file folders, index cards and even paper towel cores. This paper is of a lower quality than news paper and cardboard but can still be readily recycled into new products right here in the Northwest.

Currently, the Mixed Waste Paper that Moscow Recycling receives is baled at our facility and when we have enough for a truck



load, about 46 bales equaling approximately 60,000 pounds, it is sent to Keyes Fibers in Wenatchee, Wa. There it is turned into fruit trays, primarily for the apple industry. These trays are used to separate the 5 or 6 levels found in a case of apples.

Moscow Recycling always tries to make sure that the recyclables we collect are sent to mills in the Northwest to keep our regional economy strong. Also, by keeping these materials as local as possible reduces the amount of energy required to ship these materials, reducing the amount of carbon emitted into the atmosphere.



One Stop Drop Stations, *check em' out!*

The **One Stop Drop** stations in Nez Perce County are there to help you deal with items that are bulky and can't be collected with your trash, and for items that can be recycled. If you are not aware of this program, it is a great resource to help you manage your waste.

There are two **One Stop Drop** stations that are open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The **Sweetwater station** is located at the grain elevators on HWY 95 at Sweetwater and is open the **1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month**. The **Myrtle station** is found at the intersection of HWY 12 and Gifford Reubens Rd. and is open the **2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month**. If there is a fifth Saturday in a month, there will be no collection services at either station.

At these stations there are large roll-off boxes where materials are separated into different categories. One box is for scrap metal and large appliances (old refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers, vehicle batteries, etc.). These materials are brought to Sutton Salvage where they end up getting recycled. Another box is for car and light truck tires with or without rims (no tractor or combine tires). The tires are ultimately shipped to a company that shreds the tires where they are sent to different locations to be used as a fuel source in cement kilns, road base for construction projects and sidewalls are used as bases for orange construction barrels. A third box is for construction demolition and other inert materials including furniture (old couches, tables, bed frames and mattresses, etc.). These items are landfilled in a demolition landfill. Finally, there is a box for household waste. Generally you should place this type of waste out for collection driver as this helps keeps



solid waste costs as low as possible. If you happen to have more household waste on occasion, then consider bringing this material to the One Stop Drop Stations. Please keep in mind that it is always best to bring reusable items to area thrift stores instead of throwing them away!

Please keep in mind that household hazardous waste is not collected at the **One Stop Drop** stations (see article on page 2 of this publication for definitions for household hazardous waste).

Another great opportunity available at the **One Stop Drop** stations is **Recycling services**. When frequenting these locations you may bring down: aluminum cans; cardboard (please flatten boxes), mixed paper and magazines; glass bottles and jars; newspapers and phone books, tin cans; #1 clear plastic bottles and #2 cloudy plastic milk jugs.

Other recycling services available in Lewiston:

Lewiston City Transfer Station

560 Downriver Rd, bring current tax bill for proof of residency

746-1316, ext. 0

Lewis Clark Recyclers, Inc.

335 3rd St., across from Luna House Museum
746-1187

Pacific Steel & Recycling

604 12th St. North, at the Port of Lewiston
888-455-3598

EKO Compost

548 Downriver Rd.
746-5947

Bring current solid waste bill for proof of residency.

Please call ahead for hours of operation, materials accepted and fees.



Holiday Collection Schedule

Latah Sanitation, Inc. observes the following holidays throughout the Year:

New Years Day Memorial Day Independence Day Labor Day Thanksgiving Christmas

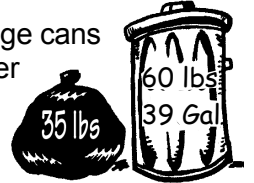
If, during the holiday week, your regular garbage day falls on or after the holiday, your garbage will be collected one day late that week. If your regular garbage day falls before the holiday, your trash will be collected as usual. **Garbage routes are subject to change.** Before the holiday, please check the *Lewiston Morning Tribune* or call Latah Sanitation, Inc. at 746-5949 if you have any questions.

Garbage Collection Reminders

Collection Time: Please be sure to have your garbage out by 5:00 a.m. on your collection day.

Three Can or Bag Limit: Please remember, you are only allowed to set out three bags or cans of garbage per week, even if you didn't put your garbage out the week before.

Size and Weight Restrictions: Please remember that oversize and overweight garbage cans can cause serious injury to our collection workers. Garbage cans must be no larger than 39 gallons in capacity and cannot weigh more than 60 lbs. When setting out garbage bags, make sure they weigh no more than 35 pounds to eliminate potential litter problems from breaking bags.



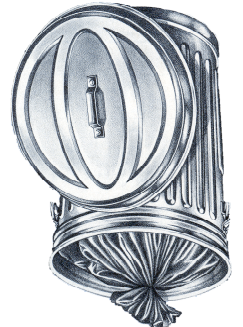
Bag Your Trash: Even if you use garbage cans, please place your trash in tied plastic bags to prevent litter.

Can Your Trash: If you place your trash out in a bag, please consider using a garbage can too. Dogs and wildlife can easily tear bags, creating litter problems. Garbage cans help reduce this problem.

Community Stops: County residents who use the community stops at Homestead Loop and Stage Coach Rd. should mark their calendars to remind them that April 1st is the start date for the spring/summer collection area and that November 1st is the start date for the fall/winter collection area. Thanks for your cooperation.

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Printed with soy/vegetable-based ink
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